— close monitoring at various levels to expedite clearances, remove bottlenecks and to resolve the 'last mile' problems in achieving financial closure.

— The Electricity Regulatory Commissions Act, 1998 has been enacted which enabled setting up of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission and the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions.

— The Electricity Laws Amendment, Act 1998 was enacted to make transmission as a distinct activity for encouraging greater participation in the investment in the private sector.

— A policy on Hydro Power Development was initiated for accelerating the pace of hydro power development in order to exploit vast hydro-electric potential at a faster pace, increase private investment, and promote small and mini hydel projects.

— The development of mega power projects at mine pit-heads, coastal locations and in regions with hydro potential both in public and private sector with transmission facilities for evacuation of power to other regions is being encouraged. Under the existing mega power policy, the identified mega projects have been given certain fiscal concessions such as exemption from payment of customs duty for import of equipment, income tax holiday, etc.

Unbundling/Corporatisation of SEBs

4049. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that many States have unbundled/corporatised their Electricity Boards as measure of reforms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have noticed any improvements in SEBs after corporatisation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (d) The States of Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Karnataka and Rajasthan have unbundled their State Electricity Boards as part of their reform programme. The SEBs have been unbundled into separate entities for generation, transmission

and distribution to achieve commercial viability of each segment. Only Orissa has privatised the distribution. States of Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Haryana have reported significant improvement in billing and revenue collection. The T & D losses have also gone down in these States after accurate assessment of actual losses.

Loktak Hydro-electric Project

4050. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Loktak Hydro-electric Project can achieve its targeted production; and

(b) whether it is a fact that most of the machines are not properly used for excess production of power ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) The Loktak Hydro-electric Project (105 Mega Watts) has been producing the target generation of power. Details of power generated from the project in the last five years are given below :

Sl.No.	Year	Energy Generation in MUs	
		Target	Actual
1.	1996-1997	450	496.53
2.	1997-1998	450	533.86
3.	1998-1999	450	532.42
4.	1999-2000	450	506.75
5.	2000-2001	450	551.14
6.	2001-2002 (upto July, 2001)	114	167.56

All the generating units of the Loktak Project are being utilized for optimal generation using its design energy.